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JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS NEWS

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Illustration by ***Connie Barbour*** 1985

The JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS COUNCIL booth at the Wake Up The Earth Festival offered a red carnation to every member. Information about the Firehouse Project was also available. Left to right behind table: Director Peter Schlessinger and Board members Ted Thomas and Esther Kaplan.

ARTS COUNCIL

ATTENTION JAMAICA PLAIN!

The JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS COUNCIL has a new post office box, number 222, and a new phone number, 524-3816 where you can reach director Peter Schlessinger. Any questions, ideas or information can best be brought to the Arts Council's attention by either of these means.

A reminder, the JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS NEWS is a seperate business from the Arts Council and can still be reached at P.O. Box 3, 522-9703. Thanks!

"It gets better every year", It's so good to see everyone after the winter", "Did you see the toaster?", "Talk to you in a minute - I want to check out the food": some of the oft heard comments at the eighth annual WAKE UP THE EARTH FESTIVAL on Saturday, May 3. Where seldom was heard a discouraging word, and the sky was not cloudy all day.

The only discordant note was struck by the eventual fate of the Southwest Corridor Community Farm itself. A neighborhood partnership has formed to help guide the decision. Important meetings will be held this month to air the various plans. To offer help and support, or for more information, call Leroy at the farm, 522-1259. Watch the Jamaica Plain Citizen for meeting dates.

A hearty hurrah! for the dozens of volunteers who worked endless hours to make this the tradition that it is. More cheers for the sixty-five sponsors and major donors whose contributions and support were and are so vital. And to the hundreds and hundreds of participants - see you next year!

It has been clear for some time that the Earth has a special place in its heart for Jamaica Plain. Could it be because we do such a bang-up job of waking it up?

MEET THE ARTIST: Connie Barbour Page 3 PHOTOS: Page 6 & 7

NEW SERIES AT BLACKBIRD

Drawing by Luzelena Beltran

SUNDAY NIGHTS AT THE BLACKBIRD!

Your most talented and enthusiastic neighbors, artists and musicians perform every Sunday night from 7-11pm at the Blackbird Restaurant, 597 Centre Street in J.P. Everyone is welcome to come, relax and enjoy the good listening. Desserts, beverages and light fare are served. $2 admission.

For more information call Luzelena at 522-5698.

On Opening Night, Sunday, April 27, the Blackbird was bopping, clapping, hooting, cheering - enjoying the performances of Danny Mydlack's accordion, voice and video performances, as well as Teka Penteriche's outstanding Brazilian jazz, guitar and voice. Performances in upcoming coffeehouses include local ethnic and native artists and musicians.

May 11 CLIFF EDWARDS and LEE CRANEFUSS: Mediums of the Dead; and JILL PZIZT, singer and songwriter on acoustic guitar.

May 18 JOEL OCKEGHEM: Renaissance music and selections from Bach's well-tempered clavichord on synthesizer; plus TO BE ANNOUNCED.

May 25 AMELIA AND JENNIFER on eclectic acoustic duo; and ALFONSO VILALLONGA, singing popular North and South American and European songs accompanied on acoustic guitar.

JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS NEWS

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MEET THE ARTIST

Connie Barbour selling her famous tee-shirts at the Wake Up The Earth Festival. The sixth year she has designed and printed them, Barbour reports that she printed 750 this year, twice the number from last year, and they are all sold.

behind her work often come from her observations of and interaction with the urban environment. Cities, and especially the endlessly shifting patterns they create, are very interesting to her, as are groups of people who are brought together by urban life (subway riders, for example. Barbour sees the social aspect of her art as mirroring the things in society we all can relate to, and collectively mythologizing them--her art gives people the sense that they belong to their environment, and that their environment belongs to them. Along the same lines, Barbour likes the fact that as a printer her art, with its multiple copies, is more available to people than it would be if she worked in another medium. She feels that art should be affordable and accessible to anyone who wants it.

Socially oriented as much of her work is, Barbour's private vision is just as important to her inspiration as her outer experiences are. She works with dreams and landscapes, in both of which pattern again plays a large part. She often uses Jamaica Pond and the changing patterns of light and water she finds there as inspiration; she does a print of the pond itself each year which is available in a limited edition. Barbour says that although artists need private visions, these are often not in synch with whatever "private vision" is currently artistically in vogue, and that there seem to be trends in private vision as in anything else. Artists who want to survive on the private vision alone are really going out on a limb, since not only do the trends change but, as Barbour points out, an artist's private vison can change unexpectedly too.

Barbour shows her silkscreen printed cards and prints in galleries and also at fairs. Since visual art can be one of the most solitary occupations, fairs for her are an opportunity to mix with the people who buy her work and to see their reactions to it. Selling her work at fairs is an aspect of being an artist that she seems to really enjoy, contrary to the stereotypical image of the artist deliberately shying away from society.

Whether through her silkscreen printing, murals, t-shirt designs, or postcards, Connie Barbour gives at least as much to the Jamaica Plain community as she derives from it. And it's nice to think that someone's recording the cultural "myths" we live everyday as part of that community.

URBAN PATTERNS

By Kathleen Fahey

Although you might not realize it, if you've lived in Jamaica Plain for a while or spend a lot of time here, you're probably familiar with Connie Barbour's artwork. While she concentrates primarily on silkscreen printing (her work is shown frequently at the Frameworthy Gallery on Centre St.), she is also the painter of the mural on the corner of St John's St., the creator of the popular "Subway Stuff" postcards,(available at Food for Thought) and for the past six years has designed and printed the "Wake Up the Earth" festival t-shirts as well.

Barbour gets great satisfaction from being able to share her work with the community at large, but it's a reciprocal relationship; the concepts

"DREAMSCAPE" 1984 copyright by Connie Barbour

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ART EVENTS

LISTINGS in the ARTS NEWS are free for Jamaica Plain events or those events that involve Jamaica Plain artists. Send information to P.O.Box 3, Jamaica Plain, MA. 02130. Be sure to include your phone number.

MUSIC

Nancy Zeltsman and Sharon Leventhal

MARIMOLIN Sharan Leventhal, violin - Nancy Zeltsman, marimba in their debut concert. Sunday, May 18 at 3PM, First and Second Church in Boston, corner Berkeley and Marlborough St. Admission $5. Domminique Eade, guest vocalist.

METROPOLITAN WIND SYMPHONY PLAYS MOZART AND MOUSSORGSKY

The Metropolitan Wind Symphony concludes its indoor concert season with a program which includes 'Pictures at an Exhibition' by Moussourgsky. Eliot Del Borgo, a renowned composer for the concert band, has written 'Symphonic Variations' in celebration of the group's 15th anniversary. Also featured will be David Demorest, the ensemble's prinipal french horn player in a performance of Mozart's Third Horn Concerto. This concert will take place on Saturday, May 17th at 8PM in the auditorium of the Boston Latin School, Avenue Louis Pasteur, near the Fenway. To reserve your ticket, call 522-2849.

BATUCADA BELLES is a multicultural women's carnival parade band, playing Brazilian sambas and other music from sunny places. Rehearsals are Tuesdays from 7-9PM in Central Square, Cambridge. There is a sliding scale membership fee from $12 to $20. Openings for new members on May 6. Women of color and varied cultural backgrounds are especially invited to join this exuberant band. No musical experience necessary. Call Buffy or Marsha at 776-6699 for information.

JAZZ COMPOSERS ALLIANCE members Duane Johnson, Darrell Katz, Ken Schaphorst and Steve Weisberg will present a concert of new music at the Emmanuel Church of Boston, 15 Newbury St., on May 6 at 8PM. Each of these four composers will have a new work premiered by the JCA Orchestra.

In additon internationally acclaimed recording artist Sam Rivers will conduct and perform four of his own new compositions for jazz orchestra. Admission $5.

Enchanted Circle Presents: **IMPROVISATIONS BY THE JOE MANERI SEXTET**; Microtonal Compositions by Van Duyne, Sims and Maneri. Tuesday, May 13 Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St. New England Conservatory, 8PM. Free Admission. Featuring Joseph Gabriel Maneri, reeds; Glenn Dickson, woodwinds; Michael Scalia, trombone; Scott Van Duyne, quartertone keyboards; Graham Gulian, percussion; Matthew Maneri, violin.

PIANO LESSONS for all levels and ages, at the Agassiz Community School. Teacher Julia Bady. Reasonable rates. Call Julia, 524-1952 or the Agassiz, 524-0841 and ask for Dorothy Martin.

HUELLAS appearing on May 17 at the Peacock Coffeehouse. From left: Jorge Arce, Ellen Castillo, Andres Mignucci, Diana Saez and Miquel Picker. Photo by Laurie Belisle.

HUELLAS TO PERFORM AT PEACOCK COFFEEHOUSE

The Latin American group Huellas will be the featured artists Saturday evening, May 17th at the Peacock Coffeehouse, Centre and Eliot Streets in Jamaica Plain. The evening begins at 8PM and admission is $4 at the door.

Huellas was founded in Boston in 1982. While celebrating the strength and beauty of Latin culture as well as the universality of human experience in contemporary society, their style reworks traditional Latin American music. Guitarist-composer Andres Mignucci says, "The idea was, in part, to leave the traditional formats of both the folk groups and the New Song groups." The music of Huellas combines folkloric roots with jazz and classical elements, "as a way of looking into what defines our people, its idiosyncracies. Our music is a product of who we are as individuals - and we like to experiment", says Mignucci.

Featured in several major concerts in the Boston area as well as benefits, they were recently the subject of a television show titles "Huellas" produced by WGBH-TV which was released nationally to over 70 Public Broadcasting affiliate stations.

Reviewed by Fernando Gonzales of the Boston Globe as one of the best Latin American music groups in the Boston area, the Peacock Coffeehouse is pleased and honored to present Huellas for the Jamaica Plain community this month.

FILM

FILMS IN JP presented by POND PICTURES at the Agassiz, 20 South St. $2.50, Series $8: Thursday evenings at 7:30:
May 8: THE PRODUCERS
May 15: THE HEART IS A LONELY HUNTER
May 22: THE BUDDY HOLLY STORY

MISC.

ARNOLD ARBORETUM PRESENTS:
LILAC SUNDAY : May 18

One of the region's most beloved springtime celebrations, Lilac Sunday features the Arboretum's collection of over 400 kinds of lilacs at their peak; always an extravaganza of color and scent.

In addition to guided van and walking tours, Morris Dance teams will perform throughout the day, an outdoor musical presentation by the "Sweet Adelines" and horse and carriage rides throughout the grounds will be featured.

A 1986 Lilac Sunday commemorative poster will be for sale beginning in May.

ORAL HISTORY OF JAMAICA PLAIN at the Jamaica Plain Branch of the Boston Public Library, Thursday, May 22, 7PM. Featuring intergenerational stories gathered by Arts in Progress, a Jamaica Plain arts agency.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF BOSTON: City and Streetcar Suburbs will be presented by Douglass Shand-Tucci, Architectural Historian, at the Jamaica Plain Branch Library, 12 Sedgwick Street, J.P. on Thursday evenings at 7:30PM, May 8 and 15. A National Endowment for the Humanities Learning Library Program. For information call 524-2053.

FRIENDS OF THE JAMAICA PLAIN BRANCH LIBRARY HOLD FAIR

The Friends of the Jamaica Plain Branch Library will be holding their annual Fair on Saturday, May 10 from 10AM to 3PM on the library lawn, at 12 Sedgwick Street and the corner of South Street, Jamaica Plain.

In addition to food, books, children's clothing toys and furniture on sale there, there will be a special performance by NINOTS PUPPET THEATRE at 11AM, rock music at 1PM and lots of great raffle prizes. Come and join the fun. For more information call 524-2053.

SACRED DANCE; DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE Simple joyous dances celebrating the sprirt of all religions. First Tuesday of each month. May 6, 7:30-9:30PM. Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave. J.P. New participants welcome. For information call 522-0800.

The HOLLOW REED SCHOOL presents its **SPRING FAIR** at the Curtis Hall Lawn, 20 South St. Jamaica Plain, MA 02130 on Saturday the 17th of May from 10AM to 3PM. Many local crafts persons, carnival games, MayPole dance, balloons, rummage sale/ flea market, and video movies will be featured, as well as stories, plays and songs by the Hollow Reed kids. Lunch will be catered by the Five Seasons Restaurant. Bring the whole family, no age limit, everyone has a good time. For more information call 524-4181.

VISUAL

EXHIBIT **ANDREA TAMKIN** Pastels at the New England Woman Service Inc., 1031 Beacon St. Brookline MA. Hours: Monday-Thursday 8-8PM, Friday and Saturday 8-5PM. Opening reception: May 15 5-7:30PM.

EXHIBIT: The Southern Jamaica Plain Health Center, 687 Centre Street, is featuring the photography of **Janet Knott**, ten years a photographer with the Boston Globe.

This month's collection features images from Mexico, particularly focusing on mid-wife and health care worker Joaquina Garcia de Escobar, from Teximo, Mexico.

BEST FOOT FORWARD an exhibit of artwork by children at the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood House continues at the Mexican Restaurant on Centre Street. Developed in conjuction with the Neighborhood Arts Center, the exhibit features work in a variety of media.

PHOTOGRAPHS by **Henry Horenstein** on exhibit at the Kaiser Visual Arts Center at Governor Dummer Academy, Byfield, Mass, through May 17. Gallery Hours: weekdays, 10AM to 3PM and Saturdays, 9AM to Noon. Byfield is on Route 1, about 35 miles north of Boston, approximately 5 miles south of Newburyport.

The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University announces an exhibit "Earthly Delights", featuring paintings and drawings by Judith Liniado and Catherine Zimmerman, through August 29. Reception April 18 from 5 to 7PM, at the Hunnewell Visitor Center Exhibition Hall.

In addition to exhibits, the Arboretum sponsors many classes, special events, tours and more. For a complete schedule call or write The Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130, 524-1718, or stop in and visit the gift shop, open 10-4.

PAINTING AT THE ARBORETUM: WATERCOLOR PAINTING FROM NATURE taught by Tamara Krendel Clark, artist, begins Saturday May 10 and runs for three weeks from 2-4PM. Fee $36 members, $42 non-members. For more information call 524-1718.

FOR KIDS

Jamaica Plain resident **Robin Miller** announces SUMMERARTS-A Summer Exploration of the Arts for Children Ages 7-11 at the Kingsley School, 30 Fairfield Street, Boston. Three sessions are open and feature a multi-disciplinary approach to the arts. For more information call 536-5984.

ATTENTION ARTISTS

Announcing a major all-media, open INTERNATIONAL ART COMPETITION. Jurors Lisa Dennison of the Guggenheim Museum, Ivan Karp of O.K. Harris Gallery in N.Y.C., and Lloyd Herman of the Renwick Gallery at the Smithsonian Institution. Exhibition at 112 Greene Street Gallery, Soho, N.Y.C. Cash Prizes and Awards. Deadline, May 14. For applications write to METRO ART, P.O. Box 286-H, Scarsdale N.Y. 10583. Tel: (914) 699-0969.

SEVENTH ANNUAL DRAWING SHOW

The Boston Center for the Arts will hold its Seventh Annual Drawing Show July 12 through August 9 at the Mills Gallery. The competition is open to all artists who reside in Massachusetts. Artists may submit three slides of drawings in any medium. The title, dimensions and medium of the work must be clearly written on the slide mount or on an accompanying sheet of paper. Include phone number. Deadline for submissions is May 8. There is no entry fee. Juror is Amy Lighthill. Send entries with SASE to Mills Gallery, Boston Center for the Arts, 549 Tremont St., Boston 02116.

THEATER

WHEELOCK FAMILIY THEATRE presents "Carousel" through May 11, Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30PM and Sundays at 3PM. Tickets are $5. This Rodgers and Hammerstein classic is particularly appropriate for children 10 years old and above, in keeping with the Wheelock Family Theatre's policy of performing plays designed especially for family audiences.

All Family Theatre productions feature multi-ethnic casts and professional equity actors. The theatre is wheelchair accessible and select performances are interpreted in American Sign Language.

Limited free parking is available at the theatre, 180 The Riverway, Boston. Call 734-5203 for reservations.

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Odyssey Host from JP

JAMAICA PLAIN RESIDENT FEATURED BY WUMB-FM RADIO

Michael Kane, a resident of Jamaica Plain for twenty-five years, was featured in the Staff Spotlight in the April issue of WUMB-FM's Radio Program Guide.

Kane has been host of the station's popular radio program ODYSSEY for the past three and a half years. The program features contemporary and traditional music from many sources - especially rare and hard-to-find recordings - and storytelling and special events listings for the New England area.

The article, by Jon Hutton, describes Kane's career start at WBRS-FM (Brandeis University) about five and a half years ago, and continues, describing the loyal following that Kane has developed as host of ODYSSEY, a position that Kane enjoys very much, wishing only that he had the opportunity to be even more eclectic.

In "real life" Kane is a research lab assistant for Dana Farber Cancer Institute. On his own time, he works with the Transfigured Night Coffeehouse in Allston, and serves on the advisory board for the Folk Arts Network, whose Research Guide he helped to produce. He also serves as a resource person for various area performance and arts groups.

Tune in to WUMB-FM (91.9) each Saturday from 10AM until 2PM and hear ODYSSEY with Michael Kane - and give yourself a treat!

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Photos by Helen Hummel

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